Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01
/052 W
----------023398 222240Z /73
P 222143Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 600

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PE
SUBJECT: POST ELECTORAL AND LABOR DEVELOPMENTS

REF: (A) LIMA 5468, (B) LIMA 5419

SUMMARY. OFFICIAL DATA ABOUT THE JUNE 18 ELECTIONS IS SLOWLY BEING PUBLISHED. HOWEVER, WITH THE GENERAL OUTLINES OF THE RESULTS KNOWN, SPECULATION TURNS TO PROBABLE ALLIANCES AMONG PARTIES AND THE PROBLEMS OF ACCOMODATION BETWEEN A LEGALLY ELECTED ASSEMBLY AND A DE FACTO GOVERNMENT. GOP LEADERS HAVE CONGRATULATED THE PEOPLE AND THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION AND THE OTHER AUTHORITIES INVOLVED IN CARRYING OUT THE ELECTIONS IN AN EXEMPLARY MANNER. ALL INDICATIONS TO DATE ARE THAT THE ELECTORAL PROCESS WAS REMARKABLY FREE FROM FRAUD OR COERCION. HOWEVER, THE GOVERNMENT STILL FACES DECISIONS REGARDING DETENTIONS AND DEPORTATIONS OF CANDIDATES AS WELL AS THE CONTINUING PROBLEMS PROVOKED BY THE ONGING ECONOMIC CRISIS. END SUMMARY.

1. AS THE EMBASSY REPORTED EARLIER, PRECISE DATA ABOUT THE OVERALL ELECTION RESULTS, INCLUDING BLANK OR INVALIDATED BALLOTS AND ABSENTEEISM, WILL NOT RPT NOT BE KNOWN UNTIL AT LEAST NEXT WEEK. WHILE THE DISTRIBUTION OF SEATS IS NOT RPT NOT EXPECTED TO CHANGE DRAMTICALLY, THE EXACT ALLOCATION OF SEATS IN THE ASSEMBLY COULD
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HAVE SOME EFFECT ON THE KINDS OF ALLIANCES AND ACCOMODATIONS THAT FINALLY MIGHT EMERGE. AS OF TODAY, THE LOCAL PRESS CLAIMED THAT OFFICIAL FIGURES WERE RUNNING CLOSE TO EARLIER UNOFFICIAL PROJECTIONS. PRESS REPORTS, OUR TALKS WITH MAJOR PARTY LEADERS AND JOURNALISTS, ALL CONFIRM OUR ESTIMATE THAT THE ELECTORAL PROCESS WAS CARRIED OUT AN ORDERLY AND FAIR MANNER.

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2. APRA AND PPC - THE ARTITHMETICAL LOGIC OF AN APRA-PPC UNDER-
STANDING IS APPARENT TO EVERYONE AND REPORTS ARE ALREADY CIRCULA-
TING ABOUT CONTACTS BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES EXPECTED TO COMMAND A
TOTAL OF 63 OR 64 SEATS IN THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY. APRA'S CO-
SECRETARY AND CAPAIGN DIRECTOR RAMIRO PRIALE AND PPC'S NO. 4
CANDIDATE ROBERTO RAMIREZ DEL VILLAR ARE RUMORED TO BE THE LIKELY
NEGOTIATORS BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES. IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES
CONTINUE TO SEPARATE THE TWO (APRA 7, REFTEL A) AND WITH AN EYE
ON THE GENRAL ELECTIONS APRA IS EXTREMELY CONCERNED TO PRESERVE
ITS INDEPENDENCE, PROMOTE ITS OWN PHILOSOPHICAL CONCEPTS AND AVOID
TOO CLOSE AN IDENTIFICATION WITH THE RIGHT. (APRA IS TILL SMART-
ING OVER THE ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES OF ITS 60'S ALLIANCE WITH
ORDRIA'S PARTY).

3. LEFTIST PARTIES ALLHAVE ISSUED SELF-CONGRATULATORY STATEMENTS
ABOUT THE OVERALL 30 PERCENT SHOWING, ALONG WITH SOME GENRAL
STATEMENTS ABOUT THE NEED FOR LEFTIST UNITY. HOWEVER, APRT
FROM A FOCEP-UDP MEETING IN PARIS, WE HAVE NO RPT NO REPORTS OF
MORE CONCRETE STEPS TO CREATE A LEFTIST BLOC. ACCORDING
TO PRESS REPORTS, EXILED CANDIDATES GENARO LEDESMAN (FOCEP),
RICARDO LETTS (UDP), JAVIER DIEZ CANSECO (UDP) AND RICARDO
NAPURI (FOCEP) HAVE FORMED A SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE IN PARIS.
FOCEP REPORTEDLY ALSO REAFFIRMED ITS INTENTION TO REMAIN IN THE
ASSEMBLY AND SEND ALTERNATIVE CANDIDATES IN CASE ITS EXILES ARE
NOT RPT NOT ALLOWED TO RETURN TO PERU. PSR LEADER LEONIDAS
RODRIGUEZ FIGUEROA WHO WAS DEPORTED TO ARGENTINA, AND PSR CANDI-
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DATE NUMBER 6, RAFAEL RONCAGILIOLO ORBEGOSO ARE BOTH SEEKING ASYLUM
IN MEXICO, ALTHOUGH GOP CLAIMS RONCAGLIOLO IS NOT UNDER DETNETION
ORDER. FOCEP'S NUMBER TWO CANDIDATE HERNAN CUENTAS WAS REPORTED
ARRESTED IN LIMA A FEW DAYS AGO, BUT HIS CURRENT STATUS IS UNKNOWN.
PCP HAS PROTESTED THE ARREST OF ONE OF ITS CANDIDATES, JULLIAN SIERRA
COLLADES, AFTER THE ELECTIONS. ALTHOUGH SOME POLITICAL LEADERS
ARE OPTIMISTIC THAT THE GOP WILL PERMIT THE RETURN OF ELECTED
EXILES AND GRANT DETAINED OR EXILED DELEGATES PARLIAMENTARY
IMMUNITY, A GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT ON THIS ISSUE IS UNLIKELY UNTIL
THE OFFICIAL RESULTS OF THE ELECTIONS ARE KNOWN.

4. THE INDEPENDENT MAGAZINE OIGA REPORTED THAT THE GOP INTENDS
TO PROCEED WITH ITS PLANS TO NAME MORE CIVILIANS TOTHE CABINET
PRIOR TO THE JULY 28 OPENING OF THE ASSEMBLY. HOWEVER, OIGA
CONTINUES, PRIOR TO THE ELECTIONS THE GOP HAS EXCLUDED PSR,
FOCEP AND UDP FROM ANY INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WITH POLITICAL
PARTIES ABOUT NEW MINISTRIES. WHILE THERE IS STILL A GOOD CHANCE
THAT MORE CIVILIAN MINISTERS MIGHT BE NAMED SOON, THE ADVISORY
ROLE FOR POLITICAL PARTIES IN THESE NOMINATIONS BECOMES MORE
PROBLEMATICAL AND PARTY LEADERS ARE WELL AWARE OF THE POLITICAL
RISKS INVOLVED. THE ARTILCE CONCLUDES THAT THIS WHOLE ISSUE WILL
HAVE TO BE RESTUDIED N VIEW OF THE SURPRISING SHOWING OF THE

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ULTRA'S MAJORITY (FOCEP-UDP) IN THE LEFT'S 30 PERCENT VOTE.

5. THE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT RPT NOT RESOLVED THE TEACHER'S STRIKE AND DESPITE OPTIMISTIC OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS THE STRIKE IS SERIOUSLY AFFECTING THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM. THE GOP HAD PREVIOUSLY ORDERED 77 TEACHERS SUMMARILY FIRED AND HAS NOW ADDED 33 MORE CASES TO THIS PROCESS. THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION HAD GRANTED PAY TO THE TEACHERS OUT ON STRIKE DURING MAY BUT HAS NOW ORDERED THAT ANY LOST TIME DURING JUNE BE DEDUCTED FROM THE NEXT PAYCHECK. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS INFORMALLY THAT CERTAIN SUTEP LEADERS HAVE BEEN DETAINED. SOME WERE HELD ONLY FOR SHORT PERIODS OF TIME WHILE OTHERS ARE STILL IN JAIL. SUTEP CONTINUES TO HOLD MEETINGS, TO APPEAL TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR WAGE INCREASES AND TO PROTEST GOVERNMENT FIRINGS AND HARASSMENT; A SUTEP MARCH IN DOWNTOWN LIMA
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JUNE 21 WAS BROKEN UP BY THE POLICE WITH TEARGAS
MEANWHILE INTERNAL QUARRELS OF WORKERS AND EMPLOYEES IN THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HALTH SUGGEST MORE PROBLEMS CAN BE EXPECTED FROM THAT SECTOR.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION RESULTS, LABOR POLICY LINE, LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LIMA05503
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780261-0280
Format: TEL
From: LIMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780631/aaaabapj.tel
Line Count: 141
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4b98bf83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 LIMA 5468, 78 LIMA 5419
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2249657
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POST ELECTORAL AND LABOR DEVELOPMENTS
TAGS: PINT, PE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4b98bf83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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